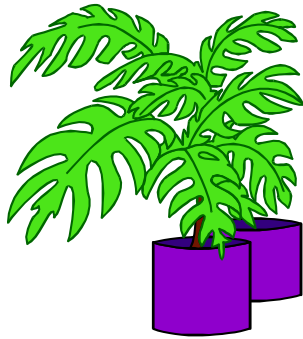


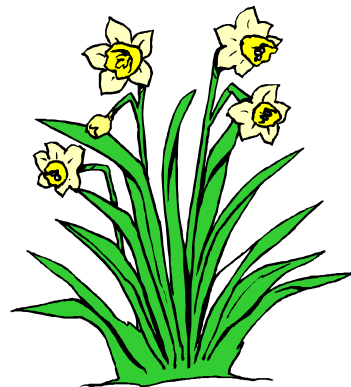
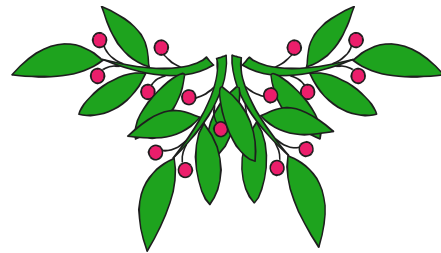
APPENDIX W
COMMON PLANTS – WHAT’S POISONOUS AND WHAT’S NOT

This is a publication of the University of Wisconsin Children’s Hospital Poison Prevention and Education Center. Additional copies can be obtained by calling (608) 265-8160 or from the Internet at <http://www.uwhealth.org/poison>. Once at the web page, scroll down to the Information & Highlights section and click on Poison Prevention Educational Materials. This will bring up a page that contains links to the Poisonous Plants Booklet in English and Spanish as well as many other resource materials about poison prevention.



Common Plants

What's Poisonous
and What's Not





COMMON PLANTS

What's Poisonous and What's Not

Many common plants found in the house and outdoors in the garden, woods or fields can cause problems if eaten, or handled so as to cause skin and eye contact. Some can be quite irritating, while others can cause stomach distress, skin rashes, hallucinations or irregular heartbeats. It is very important to know the common and botanical names of all your plants, whether they are indoors or outside.

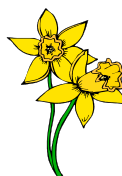
You can use this list as an aid to avoid buying plants that could be a problem if you have children or even pets that may want to sample. For your family's safety, this list includes many common plants including both poisonous and non-poisonous varieties, but ***if a plant is not listed don't assume that it is not poisonous.*** Remember that small children have unlimited curiosity, so plants need to be well out of climbing reach. Also remember that even if a plant seems harmless to humans, this may not be so for pets, so always check out plant exposures with a veterinarian.

If you have reason to believe that someone has eaten or had skin or eye contact with a problem plant, **call the poison center at 1-800-222-1222** immediately, 24 hours/day, for prompt advice and professional treatment recommendations. It is also important to know that some parts of plants can be harmless, while other parts could be a problem, so knowing which part of the plant was involved is quite helpful. If you are interested in buying a plant and it is not on this list, call the poison center before bringing it home and ask if it is a problem plant.





Plant Guidelines



- * Do NOT eat any part of a plant you don't recognize as edible
- * Do NOT chew on items made from imported beans or seeds
- * Do NOT make teas or brews from plants you do not know
- * Make sure children understand and follow these rules
- * Whenever anyone chews and swallows or comes in skin or eye contact with a potentially harmful or unknown plant, call the poison center immediately at **1-800-222-1222**
- * If the person needs medical care, take along a large sample of the plant in a brown paper bag. To help with identification, include the leaves, fruit, flowers, and any other parts
- * Place a sticker with the poison center phone number on or near your telephone
- * Remember that the poison center can be useful to rule out potentially toxic plants before they are purchased or exposures occur



UW Hospital Poison Prevention and Education Center

600 Highland Avenue, Room F6/133
Madison, WI 53792-1530
ppec@hosp.wisc.edu
1-608-265-8160 (outreach/education materials)
www.uwhealth.org



Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Poison Center

PO Box 1997 MS 677A
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1997
csmith@chw.org
1-414-266-2630 (outreach/education materials)
www.chw.org

1-800-222-1222 EMERGENCY phone number

Members: American Association of Poison Control Centers
Revised 04/2004

Name of plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Acorn	Raw nuts in large quantities	Thirst, stomach pain possible
African violet	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Aloe vera	Sap in large quantities	Diarrhea possible
Aluminum plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Alyssum	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Amaryllis	Bulb	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Angel's trumpet	All parts	Nausea, vomiting, dry warm skin and mouth, delirium
Apple	Seeds in large quantities	Stomach pain, vomiting, breathing difficulties, rise in blood pressure with delayed symptoms possible
Apricot	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Arrowhead vine	All parts	Burning irritation of mouth, throat and stomach which may be severe
Artillery plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Asparagus fern	All parts	Skin irritation possible
Aster, annual (<i>Callistephus sp.</i>)	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Aster, perennial (<i>Aster sp.</i>)	Non-toxic	
Avocado	??	Potentially toxic to birds
Azalea (<i>Rhododendron sp.</i>)	All parts	Vomiting, diarrhea, muscle weakness, drowsiness, headache
Baby's breath	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Baneberry	Roots, berries	Pain and swelling of mouth and throat, severe stomach pain, headache, dizziness, bloody diarrhea and urine, hallucinations, rise in heart rate
Barberry	Roots	Burning sensation of mouth and skin, nausea and vomiting
Begonia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Bittersweet (<i>Solanum sp.</i>)	All parts except ripe fruit	See nightshade
Bittersweet (<i>Celastrus sp.</i>)	All parts	Vomiting, diarrhea, chills possible
Blue cohosh	Roots, leaves, seeds	Severe stomach pain, salivation, nausea, vomiting, headache, fever, skin irritation
Blueflag iris	Root, possibly leaves	See iris
Boston fern	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Braken fern	All parts	Toxic to cattle, cancer-causing if chronic human ingestion
Bridal wreath	<i>Non-toxic</i>	

Name of plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Buckthorn	Berries, bark, roots	Nausea, stomach cramps, watery or bloody diarrhea, dizziness
Burning bush (<i>Euonymus sp.</i>)	Bark	Vomiting, diarrhea
Burro's tail	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Cactus	Spines	Mechanical irritation and pain
Caladium	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Calla lily	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Canna lily	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Carnation	Leaves	Mouth and skin irritation possible
Castor bean	All parts, especially seeds	Mouth and stomach pain, diarrhea, bleeding, kidney failure, seizures, death
Cherry	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Chinese evergreen	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Chinese lantern (<i>Physalis sp.</i>)	All parts except ripe fruit	Same as nightshade
Choke cherry	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Christmas cactus	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Christmas tree	Needles, sap	Mechanical obstruction, skin and eye irritation (sap)
Chrysanthemum	Flower heads, possibly leaves	Skin irritation, itching, sneezing, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, numbness of lips and tongue
Cocoa bean mulch	Shells	Potentially toxic to dogs
Coleus	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Corn plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Cotoneaster	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Crabapple	Seeds in large quantities	Same as apple
Crocus (<i>Spring-blooming</i>)	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Croton	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Daffodil	Bulb	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation
Dandelion	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Daphne	All parts	Burning irritation of mouth, throat and stomach, salivation, swollen lips, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation, kidney damage possible
Day lily	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Death camas	Bulb, flowers	Burning irritation of mouth, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, dizziness

Name of plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Delphinium	All parts, especially seeds	Burning irritation of mouth and throat, nausea, vomiting, nervousness, skin irritation
Devil's Ivy	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Dieffenbachia	All parts	Irritation, swelling and pain of mouth, lips, and throat. Skin irritation may be severe. May block breathing or swallowing.
Digitalis	All parts	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, confusion, irregular heartbeat
Dogbane	All parts	Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular heartbeat
Donkey tail	<i>Non-toxic</i>	See burro's tail
Dracaena	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Dumbcane	All parts	See dieffenbachia
Easter cactus	<i>Non-toxic</i>	Same as Christmas cactus
Easter lily	<i>"Non-toxic"</i>	Toxic to cats
Elderberry	All parts except ripe, (cooked?) fruit	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, caution with raw fruit
Elephant's ear	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
English ivy	Leaves, berries	Mouth, throat, stomach irritation, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea possible
False aralia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
False Solomon's seal	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Ficus	Leaves	Mouth and skin irritation possible from sap
Fittonia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Forsythia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Foxglove	All parts	See digitalis
Fuchsia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Garlic	??	Potentially toxic to dogs
Geranium	All parts	Skin irritation possible
Gladiolus	Bulb	Nausea, vomiting, skin irritation
Gold-dust plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Golden seal	Roots	Mouth and skin irritation, nausea, vomiting
Grape hyacinth	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Grape ivy	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Hawaiian ti	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Hemlock, poison (<i>Conium sp.</i>)	All parts (often mistaken for parsley)	Nausea, vomiting, mouth and throat irritation, dizziness, seizures

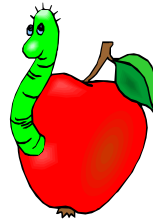
Name of plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Hemlock, water (<i>Cicuta sp.</i>)	All parts, especially roots	Nausea, salivation, diarrhea, fever, delirium, dilated pupils, seizures
Hens and chicks	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
High bush cranberry (<i>Viburnum sp.</i>)	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Hindu rope plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Hibiscus	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Holly	Berries in large quantities	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea possible
Honeysuckle	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Horse chestnut (<i>Aesculus sp.</i>)	Young sprouts, nuts	Mouth irritation, vomiting, diarrhea See also sweet chestnut
Hosta	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Hoya	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Hyacinth	Bulb	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation
Hydrangea	Buds, leaves	Stomach pain, vomiting, dizziness, headache, breathing difficulties, delayed symptoms possible
Impatiens	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Iris	Root, possibly leaves	Burning irritation of mouth and throat, vomiting, diarrhea
Jack-in-the-pulpit	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Jade plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Japanese lantern (<i>Physalis sp.</i>)	All parts except ripe fruit	Same as nightshade
Jerusalem cherry	Leaves, unripe fruit	Same as nightshade
Juniper	Leaves	Skin irritation, may be severe
Kalanchoe	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Lantana	All parts, especially unripe fruit	Stomach upset, watery or bloody diarrhea, dilated pupils, muscle weakness, delayed symptoms possible
Larkspur	All parts	See delphinium
Lilac	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Lily-of-the-valley	All parts	Same as digitalis
Lipstick plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Locust, black (<i>Robinia sp.</i>)	All parts except flowers	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness
Locust, honey (<i>Gleditsia sp.</i>)	<i>Non-toxic</i>	

Name of plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Maple tree	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Marigold	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Mayapple	All parts except ripe fruit	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation
Milkweed	All parts	Stomach irritation, diarrhea, weakness, loss of appetite
Mistletoe, American	All parts	Vomiting, diarrhea possible
Monkshood	All parts	Nausea, burning irritation of mouth and skin, vomiting, difficulty speaking and swallowing, dizziness
Monstera	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Moonflower	All parts	Same as angel's trumpet
Morning glory	Seeds	Confusion, lack of coordination, blurred vision, hallucinations
Moses-in-the-cradle	Sap	Skin irritation
Mother-in-law-tongue (<i>Dieffenbachia sp.</i>)	All parts	See dieffenbachia
Mother-in-law-tongue (<i>Sanseveria sp.</i>)	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Mountain ash	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Mulberry	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Narcissus	Bulb	See daffodil
Nightshade (<i>Solanum sp.</i>)	All parts except ripe fruit	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, delayed symptoms possible
Norfolk Island pine	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Oleander	All parts	Same as digitalis
Onion	??	Potentially toxic to dogs
Orchid	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Ornamental pepper (<i>Capsicum sp.</i>)	Fruit, seeds	Mouth, throat, skin irritation, possibly severe
Palm	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Panda plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Pansy	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Peace lily	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Peach	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Peony	Roots, flowers, seeds	Skin irritation, nausea, stomach pain, diarrhea
Peperomia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Petunia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Philodendron	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia

Name of plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Piggy-back plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Pilea	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Pin cherry	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Plum	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Poinsettia	Leaves, sap	Mouth and skin irritation
Poison ivy	All parts (even smoke from burning leaves)	Itching, rash, oozing sores, swelling of mouth and throat, fever
Poison oak	All parts	Same as poison ivy
Poison sumac	All parts	Same as poison ivy
Pothos	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Prayer plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Privet	All parts	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea
Purple passion	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Queen Anne's lace	Leaves, flowers	Sun-induced skin irritation See wild parsnip
Rhododendron	All parts	See azalea
Rhubarb	Leaves in large quantities	Mouth and skin irritation, kidney damage possible
Rose	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Rubber plant	Sap	Mouth and skin irritation
Sanseveria	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Schefflera	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Sedum	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Shamrock	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Snapdragon	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Snowberry	Fruit	Vomiting, diarrhea, drowsiness, dizziness
Snow-on-the-mountain	All parts	Sap causes skin rash, blisters, mouth throat and stomach irritation
Solomon's seal	Fruit	Stomach irritation possible
Spider plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Spurges <i>(All species)</i>	All parts	Same as snow-on-the-mountain
Stinging nettle	All parts	Skin burning, irritation
Strawberry begonia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Swedish ivy	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Sweet pea	All parts	Cramps, loss of sensation, paralysis. Symptoms delayed, usually chronic or large ingestion

Name of plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Thanksgiving cactus	<i>Non-toxic</i>	Same as Christmas cactus
Tulip	Bulb	Mouth and skin irritation
Umbrella plant (<i>Cyperus sp.</i>)	All parts	Diarrhea, kidney damage possible if chronic ingestion
Umbrella tree (<i>Brassaia sp.</i>)	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Violet (<i>outdoors</i>)	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Virginia creeper	All parts	Mouth and skin irritation
Yucca	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Wandering jew	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Wax plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Weeping fig	Sap	Mouth and skin irritation
Wild grape	<i>Non-toxic</i>	Check ID against Virginia creeper
Wild parsnip	All parts	Severe, progressive skin irritation with blister formation, worsening with exposure to sunlight
Wisteria	All parts	Mouth, throat and skin irritation, stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea
Yew, American (<i>Taxus sp.</i>)	All parts except red fleshy cup around the seed	Vomiting, dizziness, trembling, dry mouth, stomach pain, rash, weakness
Yew, English (<i>Taxus sp.</i>)	All parts except red fleshy cup around the seed	Same as yew, American
Yew, Japanese (<i>Taxus sp.</i>)	All parts except red fleshy cup around the seed	Same as yew, American
Yew, Japanese (<i>Podocarpus sp.</i>)	Light blue berries, leaves	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Zebra plant	<i>Non-toxic</i>	
Zinnia	<i>Non-toxic</i>	

Special Considerations for Pets and Plants

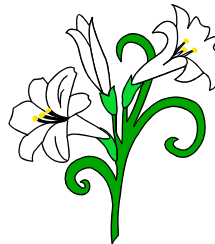


- ✿ **If an animal is exposed to ANY poison immediately call the National Animal Poison Center at 1-800-548-2423 (there is a charge for this service)**
- ✿ Dogs love to eat both indoor and outdoor plants
- ✿ Cats enjoy browsing on many indoor and outdoor plants too
- ✿ Birds, small mammals and reptiles appreciate the dietary variety plants offer
- ✿ Large animals such as cattle and horses can be seriously poisoned by forage plants
- ✿ Problem plants for animals include but may not be limited to the following:
 - Avocado: Potentially problems for birds and small animals
 - Braken fern: Toxic to cattle and horses, transfers into milk
 - Cocoa bean mulch: Toxic to dogs
 - Easter lily: Toxic to cats
 - Garlic: Potentially problems for dogs
 - Onions: Potentially problems for dogs
 - Philodendron: Toxic to cats and dogs (and other pets?)
 - Pothos: Toxic to cats and dogs (and other pets?)
 - Yew (Taxus sp): Toxic (fatal) to cattle and horses, (others?)



(Credit to MN Poison Center for input on toxins in animals)

“My Plant List”



Jot down plants not in this list and call the poison center for advice on their potential toxicity!

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____